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Montana Employment AND Labor Force Trends

Montana Department of Labor & Industry
Research & Analysis Bureau
2nd Quarter 1997
Volume 27, Number 2

Economic Highlights & Employment Outlook

Montana's **Civilian Labor Force** averaged 460,500 for the second quarter of 1997—up 10,100 over the quarter, and up 11,300 over the year.

Employment

The number of Montanans **employed** during the quarter averaged 438,300—14,200 more over the quarter, and 12,400 more over the year.

Unemployment

About 22,200 Montanans were estimated to be **unemployed** during the quarter—which was 4,100 fewer than the previous quarter and 1,100 fewer than the second quarter of 1996.

The **average unemployment rate** for the quarter was 4.8 percent—down 1.0 percent from the previous quarter, and down 0.4 percent from the second quarter of 1996.

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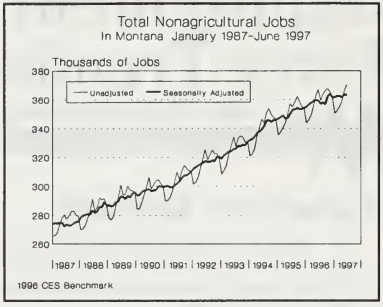
Where does Montana rank among other states in a variety of categories?
See page 8.

Quarterly Trends

	— Montana —				— U.S. —
Quarter	Montana Civilian Labor Force*	Montanans Employed	Montanans Unemployed	Unemployment Rate (Montana)	Unemployment Rate (U.S.)
1997 - 2nd	460,500	438,300	22,200	4.8%	4.9%
1997 - 1st	450,400	424,100	26,300	5.8%	5.7%
1996 - 4th	446,100	424,800	21,300	4.8%	5.0%
1996 - 3rd	452,300	432,400	19,900	4.4%	5.2%
1996 - 2nd	449,200	425,900	23,300	5.2%	5.4%

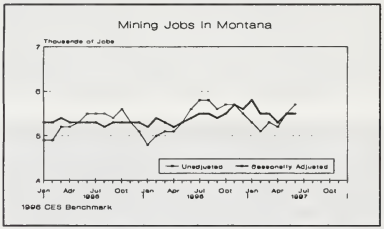
*Rounded Civilian Labor Force Numbers, 1997 Benchmark (Not Seasonally Adjusted)



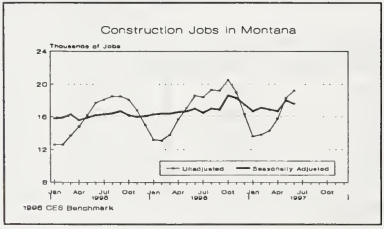
Jobs by Industry

NOTE: Numbers may not total due to rounding.

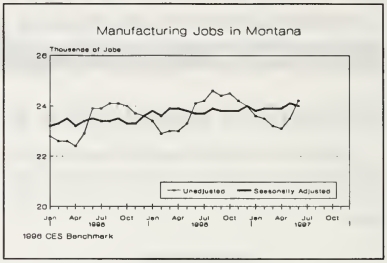
Total **nonagricultural wage and salary employment** averaged 365,100 for the second quarter of 1997—12,600 more than the previous quarter, and 3,400 more than second quarter 1996.



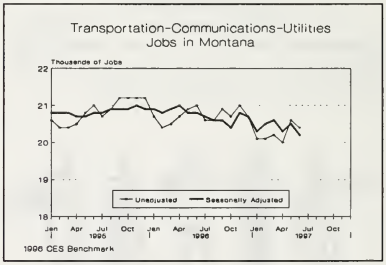
MINING averaged 5,500 jobs during the second quarter—up about 300 jobs from the previous quarter, and up about 200 jobs over the year.



CONSTRUCTION averaged 17,800 jobs—up about 3,900 jobs from the previous quarter, and up about 700 jobs over the year.

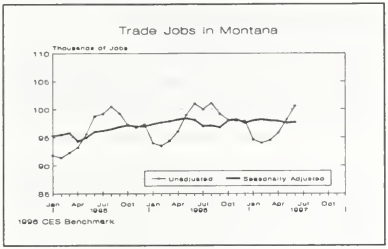


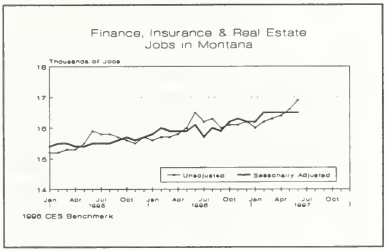
MANUFACTURING averaged 23,600 jobs for the quarter—up about 200 jobs over the quarter, and up about 100 over the year.



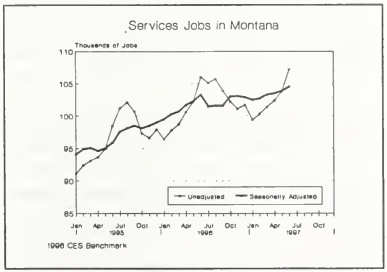
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS & UTILITIES (TCU) averaged 20,300 jobs for the quarter—up about 200 jobs from the previous quarter, but down about 600 jobs from second quarter 1996.

TRADE jobs averaged 98,200 for the quarter—up about 3,800 jobs from the previous quarter, but down about 500 over the year. **Eating & drinking places** was up about 2,300 jobs over the quarter, and **building materials & garden supplies** was up about 600.

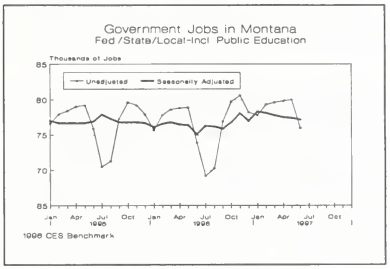




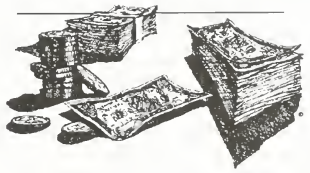
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE (FIRE) averaged 16,600 jobs for the quarter—up about 400 jobs over the quarter and 500 jobs over the year.



SERVICES averaged 104,500 jobs—up about 4,100 jobs over the quarter, and up about 1,600 over the year. Hotels and other lodging gained 1,300 jobs over the quarter, but was down 300 jobs over the year. **Business services** gained about 800 jobs over the quarter and about 1,100 over the year. **Nursing & personal care** was down about 400 jobs over the year, while **hospitals** was down about 300.



TOTAL GOVERNMENT jobs in Montana averaged 78,600 for the quarter—down about 300 from the previous quarter, but up about 1,400 jobs from second quarter 1996. **Total federal government** was down 400 jobs over the year. **State education** was up about 200 over the year, and **local education** was up about 900.



Average Weekly Hours & Earnings

Average weekly earnings for production workers averaged $348.48 during the second quarter of 1997—up $5.76 from the previous quarter, and up $11.62 over the year.

Average weekly hours for the quarter averaged 32.0—up 0.5 hour over the quarter, and up 0.1 hour over the year.

Average hourly earnings averaged $10.89 —up 1 cent over the quarter, and up 33 cents over the year.

Industry News from Around the State

Agriculture

- **Summer brought a bumper crop of cherries** in the Flathead. A Flathead Lake Cherry Growers Association spokesperson says it's the biggest harvest since many cherry trees were killed by a severe freeze in 1989.

- **The Mid-America Dairymen Inc.** dairy co-op of Springfield, Mo. has signed an agreement to buy the Borden/Meadow Gold Dairies chain headquartered in Ogden, Utah, which includes Meadow Gold Dairies located in Billings, Bozeman and Helena. Meadow Gold's general manager for Montana says Meadow Gold employs about 200 people statewide. The buyout requires approval from the U.S. Justice Department.

Mining

- **The Beal Mountain Mine** south of Fairmont has announced plans to shut down in late September, laying off 112 workers. The mine manager says the mine has run out of ore reserves that can be economically mined. He says 60 miners will be laid off beginning in early August, 27 workers in the crushing plant will be laid off in late September through early October and 25 supportive workers will be laid off later in the year. About 15 workers will remain to operate and maintain the mine's plant and finish the mine's leaching, rinsing and maintenance activities.

Construction

- **The Montana Department of Transportation** is overseeing in excess of $160 million worth of highway projects this summer. If the weather cooperates, spending could top last year's record of $178 million. A department spokesman says last year's highway spending led to 1,600 construction jobs and 3,000 additional jobs in industries that supply contractors. In addition to road projects, 11 new rest areas are being constructed.

- **Construction is progressing** on the $6 million Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Great Falls, with a grand opening expected next summer.

- **A $16.7 million construction** and renovation project is under way at the Montana State Hospital campus in Warm Springs. A new 135-bed mental hospital will be built and 4 existing buildings will be remodeled. The new hospital is expected to be completed by September 1999.

- **California-based Macerich Co.**, which owns Rimrock Mall in Billings and Holiday Village mall in Great Falls, is building a second mall in Great Falls. A spokesperson says the $15 million Great Falls Marketplace will be an unenclosed "power center" that already has a half-dozen stores, a Buttrey Big Fresh store and a 10-screen theater complex lined up as tenants. It's hoped that some of the stores will be open by the end of 1997 or the beginning of 1998.

- **Construction has begun** on an $11 million agriculture-bioscience research building on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman. Renovation is also under way on the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse and the Reno H. Sales Stadium.

- **Work has begun** on the first projects of a planned 20-year expansion at Big Sky. A gondola base is being demolished to make way for a new one, a water tank is being replaced and new employee housing is being built.

- **Construction has been delayed** on a Wal-Mart store in Polson while a dispute is resolved over highway-access design. Wal-Mart spokesmen had said earlier that they expected the store to be completed by this fall.

Manufacturing

- **A producer of aircraft landing-gear** components has decided to relocate from Ohio to Missoula. CM Manufacturing Inc. will build a small factory at the county industrial park near Missoula's airport which is expected to be occupied by late September. Several employees are slated to move from Ohio with the business. Four full-time machinists, a contract administrator and a secretary will be hired in Missoula. The business owner's son, a recent University of Montana graduate, will manage the plant.

- **S&K Electronics in Pablo** has been awarded a $1.3 million contract to develop robots and operating software for NASA. The company will work with a San Antonio firm specializing in automation and robotics. Two, 2-year extensions on the contract are possible. S&K Electronics is owned by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and employs between 30 to 50 people, depending on contract obligations.

- **United Tote is moving** from Billings to Bozeman to consolidate operations with its parent company, Video Lottery Technologies. The move of 16 sales and marketing jobs is scheduled to be complete by Oct. 1. Five manufacturing and repair jobs were moved to Bozeman in December. United Tote sells pari-mutuel wagering machines and services for horse, greyhound and simulcast racing. Most employees will receive offers to relocate with their jobs, according to a company spokesman.

- **Lewistown's Big Spring Water Co.** has been acquired by ColMont Springs, Inc., of Bozeman. A ColMont Springs spokesman says his company plans to increase sales of all Big Spring products.

- **The Livingston Rebuild Center** has leased a locomotive repair facility in Bensenville, Ill. A Rebuild Center spokesperson says the Illinois location will service and repair the center's lease fleet of locomotives used to replace locomotives undergoing complete remanufacturing at the Livingston facility.

Transportation, Communications & Utilities

- **The deregluation of Montana's utilities** industry approved by the 1997 Montana Legislature requires that larger industrial users of electricity be able to choose their electricity supplier by mid-1998 and other consumers be able to choose by mid-2002. While the price consumers pay for electricity will be deregulated, the cost of transmitting the power will continue to be regulated by the state's Public Service Commission.

- **Energy West Inc.,** which sells natural gas in Great Falls, has announced an alliance with a susidiary of Washington Water Power, Avista Energy, in order to sell electricity and natural gas when utility deregulation begins going into effect in Montana.

Finance, Insurance & Real Estate

- **The Federal Reserve approved the merger** June 23 of the First Bank System and U.S. Bancorp, which clears the way for one of the largest banking organizations in the United States.

- **Crop Growers Corp**. has announced plans to discontinue its insurance processing operation in Great Falls and lay off 25 insurance workers. About 20 to 25 employees work in the company's mapping and agricultural software business.

- **Two Great Falls-based banks**—Heritage Bank and United Savings Bank—have announced their intent to merge. They hope to receive permission from shareholders and banking regulators by the end of the year.

- **Norwest Bank** has reached an agreement with Buttrey Food and Drug to put full-service branch banks in a number of Buttrey stores in Montana

and Wyoming. Glacier Bank has opened a branch in the new Helena Safeway store. According to newspaper reports, at least 2 other banks are planning to set up grocery store branches.

- **D.A. Davidson & Co.** has announced plans to establish a regional brokerage in the Seattle-Tacoma area and an investment banking office in Salt Lake City. The Great Falls-based firm currently has 25 locations and about 145 investment executives in the Pacific Northwest and the Northern Rockies.

- **The Great Falls Clinic and** Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana have joined to offer a managed health care plan called MontanaCare Inc. in northern and northeastern Montana. The plan will initially be marketed inside Cascade County with an HMO provider network made up of 80 health professionals at the Great Falls Clinic. A spokesperson says the plan will be marketed outside Cascade County once the HMO has lined up health providers in other communities.

Trade

- **Buttrey Food and Drug** plans to build a third Buttrey Big Fresh store in Great Falls that will be part of the new Great Falls Marketplace complex currently under construction. The new store will employ about 150 workers. A company spokesperson says construction on the store is expected to begin later this year.

- **Wolf Point** has a new Anthony's store located in the old JC Penney building. An Anthonys spokesperson says the store is a reflection of the company's new "smaller community" store concept.

Services

- **The company that began managing** mental-health services for the poor in Montana in April is merging with another health management company. Spokespersons say CMG Health Inc. will continue to do business in Montana as a wholly-owned subsidiary of New Jersey-based Merit Behavioral Care Corp.

- **Bars, restaurants and resorts** are offering video gambling again on the Flathead Indian Reservation after the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes reached an agreement with the state in accord with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1993.

- **The state gave the go-ahead** for 2 new outpatient surgery centers to be built in Great Falls, but construction plans are on hold because of a challenge to the certificates of need being granted. The proposed Central Montana Surgery Center would be used predominantly by independent physicians and their patients, and was expected to be open as early as April of next year. The Great Falls Clinic surgery center would be used primarily by clinic doctors and patients, and was expected to open next summer.

- **Missoula's Community Medical Center** will be laying off about 50 staff members this summer or cutting back their hours, according to a hospital spokesperson. He says reductions will be made in departments that experience changes or a reduction in business in an an effort to "get our staffing down to certain benchmarks." At the time of the announcement, the hospital was reported to have 660 full-time equivalent positions.

- **Helena-based Mental Health Services Inc.** closed its doors in March and has since filed for bankruptcy.

- **A top producer of outdoor programs** for network television is relocating from Las Vegas to Missoula. A spokesperson says Barrett Productions expects to employ 12 to 16 people, some of whom will transfer from Las Vegas.

- **Litigation Abstract Inc. of Missoula** makes a business out of organizing legal material on computer databases for large law firms around the nation. In addition to making legal research easier, the information is sometimes used in courtrooms to present documents—and has been used in 2 recent "paperless" trials, a spokesperson says.

- **Three movies are being filmed** in Montana this summer: "The Horse Whisperer," starring and directed by Robert Redford, a made-for-television movie called "Everything that Rises," and a dramatic comedy titled "What Dreams May Come," starring Robin Williams.

- **Anderson-Elerding Travel Service Inc.** has been acquired by Morris Travel Services based in Utah. All of Anderson-Elerding's approximately 50 employees will be retained, a spokesperson says.

- **Bozeman-based Bridger Systems** has evolved from computer software consulting to computer software development. Its OFAC Tracker software screens financial transactions for the names of forbidden clients. Its AgDirect database software provides a national directory for horse and cattle buyers on the Internet.

Government

- **The people of Montana** now own Virginia and Nevada cities. With money provided by the Montana Legislature, the state bought the 2 historic properties from a private owner in May.

- **Western Montana College** of the University of Montana is working with Salish-Kootenai College to offer a 4-year degree in elementary education at the Pablo school beginning this fall.

Information used in the preceding industry briefs was gathered primarily from state newspaper reports.

Where Montana Ranks

The following government data rankings come from Morgan Quitno Press's *State Rankings 1997, A Statistical View of the 50 United States*. Data used is from the following public information sources: (1) U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, (2) U.S. Dept. of Justice, (3) Federal Bureau of Investigation, (4) U.S. Bureau of the Census, (5) U.S. Dept. of Commerce, (6) U.S. Dept. of Education, (7) U.S. Dept. of Labor, (8) U.S. Dept. of Energy, (9) Government Services Administration, and (10) U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services.

☞Agriculture:

- 2nd in acres of land in farms in 1996 (1)
- 3rd in acres of wheat harvested in 1995 (1)
- 5th in average number of acres per farm in 1996 (1)
- 5th in average per farm value of farmland and buildings in 1996 (1)
- 12th in cattle on farms in 1996 (1)
- 12th in acres harvested in 1995 (1)
- 13th in acres planted in 1995 (1)
- 13th in government payments in 1995 (1)

☞Crime and Law Enforcement:

- 35th in state prisoner incarceration rate in 1996: 247 per 100,000 population / U.S.=388 (2)
- 46th in violent crime rate in 1995: 170.6 per 100,000 population / U.S.=684.6 (3)
- 46th in per capita state and local government expenditures for corrections in 1993 (4)

☞Economy:

- 44th in median household income in 1995: $27,757 / U.S.=$34,076 (4)
- 45th in per capita personal income in 1995: $18,445 / U.S.=$23,208 (5)

☞Education:

- 8th in public high school graduation rate in 1994: 84.4% / U.S.= 70.1% (6)
- 19th in percent of population graduated from high school as of 1995: 84.7% / U.S.=81.7% (4)
- 23rd (tied with Florida and Idaho) in percent of population graduated from college as of 1995: 22.1% / U.S.=23.0% (4)
- 29th in expenditures for higher education as a percent of all state and local government expenditures in 1993: 7.87% / U.S. 7.28% (4)
- 30th in expenditures for elementary and secondary education as a percent of all state and local government expenditures in 1993: 20.34% / U.S.=19.87% (4)

☞Employment:

- 5th in percent of nonfarm employees in government in 1996: 21.60% / U.S.=16.18% (7)
- 29th (tied with Wyoming) in unemployment rate in 1996: 4.6% / U.S.=5.3% (7)
- 48th in average annual pay in 1995: $20,516 / U.S.=$27,845 (7)

☞ Energy Use:

- 31st in natural gas prices in 1993: $4.21 per million btu's / U.S.=$4.16 (8)
- 46th in electricity prices in 1993: $12.87 per million btu's / U.S.=$20.38 (8)

☞ Geography:

- 4th in land area in square miles (4)
- 10th in acres of land owned by the federal government in 1994 (9)

☞ Health:

- 2nd in death rate by chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases in 1994: 56.9 per 100,000 population / U.S.=39.0 (10)
- 5th in death rate by suicide in 1994: 18.5 per 100,000 / U.S.=12.0 (10)
- 8th (tied with Idaho) in death rate by accidents in 1994: 46.1 deaths per 100,000 population / U.S.=35.1 (10)
- 12th in death rate by diabetes mellitus in 1994: 25.1 deaths per 100,000 population / U.S.=21.8 (10)
- 17th in death rate by cerebrovascular diseases in 1994: 67.1 deaths per 100,000 population / U.S.=58.9 (10)
- 17th in death rate by pneumonia and influenza in 1994: 34.2 deaths per 100,000 population / U.S.=31.3 (10)
- 30th in percent of population not covered by health insurance in 1995: 12.7% / U.S.=15.4% (4)
- 41st in death rate by diseases of the heart in 1994: 224.5 deaths per 100,000 population / U.S.=281.3 (10)
- 41st in percent of adults who smoke in 1995: 21.13% / U.S.=22.40% (10)
- 44th in birth rate in 1995: 12.8 live births per 1,000 population / U.S.=14.8 (10)
- 45th in death rate by AIDS in 1994: 3.0 deaths per 100,000 population / U.S.=16.2 (10)

☞ Housing:

- 22nd in homeownership rate in 1996: 68.6% / U.S.=65.4% (4)
- 38th in median value of a house in 1990: $56,600 / U.S.=$79,100 (4)

☞ Population:

- 5th in percent of population American Indian in 1995: 6.09% / U.S.=0.85% (4)
- 5th in percent of eligible population reported voting in 1994: 60.7% / U.S.=44.6% (4)
- 14th in percent change in population, 1990 - 1996: 10.1% increase / U.S.=6.7% increase (4)
- 48th in population per square mile in 1996: 6.04 persons / U.S.=75.02 (4)

☞ Social Welfare:

- 14th in poverty rate in 1995: 15.3% / U.S.=13.8% (4)
- 18th in percent of school age children living in poverty in 1995: 19.0% / U.S.=19.0% (4)

LAUS
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

TABLE 1-A
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

97 BMK
June 1997 (P)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
MONTANA	465,128	442,521	22,607	4.9%
YELLOWSTONE	69,703	66,631	3,072	4.4%
CASCADE	37,507	35,573	1,934	5.2%
BEAVERHEAD	5,059	4,868	191	3.8%
BIG HORN	4,472	4,025	447	10.0%
BLAINE	2,993	2,708	285	9.5%
BROADWATER	1,866	1,795	71	3.8%
CARBON	4,372	4,141	231	5.3%
CARTER	1,055	1,036	19	1.8%
CHOUTEAU	2,945	2,883	62	2.1%
CUSTER	6,382	6,164	218	3.4%
DANIELS	1,391	1,366	25	1.8%
DAWSON	5,179	5,027	152	2.9%
DEER LODGE	3,786	3,564	222	5.9%
FALLON	1,722	1,660	62	3.6%
FERGUS	6,178	5,860	318	5.1%
FLATHEAD	41,167	38,795	2,372	5.8%
GALLATIN	39,794	38,851	943	2.4%
GARFIELD	1,059	1,022	37	3.5%
GLACIER	6,895	5,985	910	13.2%
GOLDEN VALLEY	502	479	23	4.6%
GRANITE	1,102	1,027	75	6.8%
HILL	10,183	9,647	536	5.3%
JEFFERSON	4,646	4,486	160	3.4%
JUDITH BASIN	1,142	1,090	52	4.6%
LAKE	11,650	10,929	721	6.2%
LEWIS & CLARK	28,142	26,833	1,309	4.7%
LIBERTY	1,070	1,037	33	3.1%
LINCOLN	7,105	6,282	823	11.6%
MCCONE	1,278	1,247	31	2.4%
MADISON	3,442	3,324	118	3.4%
MEAGHER	1,057	1,003	54	5.1%
MINERAL	1,442	1,334	108	7.5%
MISSOULA	51,525	49,454	2,071	4.0%
MUSSELSHELL	1,987	1,829	158	8.0%
PARK	11,223	10,824	399	3.6%
PETROLEUM	357	345	12	3.4%
PHILLIPS	2,487	2,350	137	5.5%
PONDERA	3,143	3,023	120	3.8%
POWDER RIVER	1,348	1,329	19	1.4%
POWELL	2,508	2,369	139	5.5%
PRAIRIE	725	696	29	4.0%
RAVALLI	16,123	15,392	731	4.5%
RICHLAND	5,503	5,152	351	6.4%
ROOSEVELT	4,326	3,898	428	9.9%
ROSEBUD	4,829	4,378	451	9.3%
SANDERS	3,840	3,479	361	9.4%
SHERIDAN	2,255	2,209	46	2.0%
SILVER BOW	17,624	16,849	775	4.4%
STILLWATER	4,135	3,879	256	6.2%
SWEET GRASS	1,732	1,686	46	2.7%
TETON	3,133	3,060	73	2.3%
TOOLE	2,947	2,843	104	3.5%
TREASURE	535	514	21	3.9%
VALLEY	4,679	4,488	191	4.1%
WHEATLAND	1,299	1,239	60	4.6%
WIBAUX	584	567	17	2.9%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	32,788	31,319	1,469	4.5%
MSLA/RAVALLI LMA	67,648	64,846	2,802	4.1%

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON FINAL PAGE

LAUS

Local Area Unemployment Statistics

TABLE 1-B
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

97 BMK
May 1997 (R)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
MONTANA	459,004	438,581	20,423	4.4%
YELLOWSTONE	69,619	67,000	2,619	3.8%
CASCADE	37,444	35,837	1,607	4.3%
BEAVERHEAD	5,049	4,880	169	3.3%
BIG HORN	4,464	4,095	369	8.3%
BLAINE	3,123	2,786	337	10.8%
BROADWATER	1,928	1,870	58	3.0%
CARBON	4,143	3,914	229	5.5%
CARTER	1,002	984	18	1.8%
CHOUTEAU	2,848	2,804	44	1.5%
CUSTER	6,357	6,174	183	2.9%
DANIELS	1,411	1,395	16	1.1%
DAWSON	5,326	5,215	111	2.1%
DEER LODGE	3,742	3,544	198	5.3%
FALLON	1,629	1,592	37	2.3%
FERGUS	6,068	5,809	259	4.3%
FLATHEAD	40,033	37,478	2,555	6.4%
GALLATIN	39,068	37,950	1,118	2.9%
GARFIELD	1,005	980	25	2.5%
GLACIER	5,994	5,248	746	12.4%
GOLDEN VALLEY	541	527	14	2.6%
GRANITE	1,020	949	71	7.0%
HILL	10,081	9,677	404	4.0%
JEFFERSON	4,626	4,478	148	3.2%
JUDITH BASIN	1,053	1,012	41	3.9%
LAKE	11,203	10,614	589	5.3%
LEWIS & CLARK	27,808	26,785	1,023	3.7%
LIBERTY	1,114	1,088	26	2.3%
LINCOLN	7,314	6,408	906	12.4%
MCCONE	1,186	1,158	28	2.4%
MADISON	3,282	3,152	130	4.0%
MEAGHER	970	922	48	4.9%
MINERAL	1,609	1,463	146	9.1%
MISSOULA	50,963	49,031	1,932	3.8%
MUSSELSHELL	1,908	1,770	138	7.2%
PARK	10,561	10,170	391	3.7%
PETROLEUM	334	323	11	3.3%
PHILLIPS	2,484	2,357	127	5.1%
PONDERA	3,198	3,106	92	2.9%
POWDER RIVER	1,251	1,240	11	0.9%
POWELL	2,472	2,331	141	5.7%
PRAIRIE	698	670	28	4.0%
RAVALLI	15,941	15,261	680	4.3%
RICHLAND	5,464	5,154	310	5.7%
ROOSEVELT	4,300	3,995	305	7.1%
ROSEBUD	4,875	4,526	349	7.2%
SANDERS	3,849	3,475	374	9.7%
SHERIDAN	2,254	2,212	42	1.9%
SILVER BOW	17,527	16,850	677	3.9%
STILLWATER	4,110	3,950	160	3.9%
SWEET GRASS	1,699	1,658	41	2.4%
TETON	3,145	3,078	67	2.1%
TOOLE	2,967	2,884	83	2.8%
TREASURE	500	489	11	2.2%
VALLEY	4,596	4,460	136	3.0%
WHEATLAND	1,257	1,223	34	2.7%
WIBAUX	590	578	12	2.0%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	32,434	31,263	1,171	3.6%
MSLA/RAVALLI LMA	66,904	64,292	2,612	3.9%

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON FINAL PAGE

LAUS
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

TABLE 1-C
MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
LABOR FORCE STATISTICS

97 BMK
April 1997 (R)

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOY-MENT	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
MONTANA	457,289	433,646	23,643	5.2%
YELLOWSTONE	70,115	67,187	2,928	4.2%
CASCADE	37,811	35,891	1,920	5.1%
BEAVERHEAD	4,920	4,733	187	3.8%
BIG HORN	4,381	3,972	409	9.3%
BLAINE	2,959	2,659	300	10.1%
BROADWATER	1,820	1,759	61	3.4%
CARBON	4,152	3,885	267	6.4%
CARTER	919	895	24	2.6%
CHOUTEAU	2,671	2,631	40	1.5%
CUSTER	6,310	6,022	288	4.6%
DANIELS	1,355	1,334	21	1.5%
DAWSON	5,247	5,110	137	2.6%
DEER LODGE	3,863	3,597	266	6.9%
FALLON	1,570	1,527	43	2.7%
FERGUS	6,032	5,679	353	5.9%
FLATHEAD	40,062	37,150	2,912	7.3%
GALLATIN	39,299	38,036	1,263	3.2%
GARFIELD	936	913	23	2.5%
GLACIER	5,345	4,635	710	13.3%
GOLDEN VALLEY	510	491	19	3.7%
GRANITE	1,035	937	98	9.5%
HILL	10,095	9,604	491	4.9%
JEFFERSON	4,674	4,489	185	4.0%
JUDITH BASIN	989	946	43	4.3%
LAKE	11,039	10,374	665	6.0%
LEWIS & CLARK	28,082	26,854	1,228	4.4%
LIBERTY	1,042	1,016	26	2.5%
LINCOLN	7,232	6,192	1,040	14.4%
MCCONE	1,125	1,086	39	3.5%
MADISON	3,178	3,009	169	5.3%
MEAGHER	927	858	69	7.4%
MINERAL	1,604	1,433	171	10.7%
MISSOULA	50,945	48,768	2,177	4.3%
MUSSELSHELL	1,901	1,762	139	7.3%
PARK	10,229	9,670	559	5.5%
PETROLEUM	300	282	18	6.0%
PHILLIPS	2,442	2,274	168	6.9%
PONDERA	3,100	2,987	113	3.6%
POWDER RIVER	1,209	1,186	23	1.9%
POWELL	2,446	2,278	168	6.9%
PRAIRIE	684	650	34	5.0%
RAVALLI	15,906	15,179	727	4.6%
RICHLAND	5,523	5,172	351	6.4%
ROOSEVELT	4,306	3,974	332	7.7%
ROSEBUD	4,848	4,457	391	8.1%
SANDERS	3,931	3,432	499	12.7%
SHERIDAN	2,214	2,153	61	2.8%
SILVER BOW	17,707	16,892	815	4.6%
STILLWATER	4,079	3,849	230	5.6%
SWEET GRASS	1,621	1,565	56	3.5%
TETON	2,970	2,907	63	2.1%
TOOLE	2,863	2,774	89	3.1%
TREASURE	451	441	10	2.2%
VALLEY	4,556	4,401	155	3.4%
WHEATLAND	1,201	1,153	48	4.0%
WIBAUX	563	540	23	4.1%
L & C/JEFFERSON LMA	32,756	31,343	1,413	4.3%
MSLA/RAVALLI LMA	66,851	63,947	2,904	4.3%

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-1 ON FINAL PAGE

LAUS
Local Area Unemployment Statistics

TABLE II
MONTANA CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY STATISTICS
(IN THOUSANDS)

1997 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	447.6	449.6	454.2	457.3	459.0	465.1							
EMPLOYED PERSONS	421.2	423.3	428.0	433.7	438.5	442.5							
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0							
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE	26.9	25.4	29.9	31.3	36.1	39.9							
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	26.4	26.3	26.2	23.6	20.4	22.6							
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	5.9%	5.9%	5.8%	5.2%	4.4%	4.9%							
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	4.8%	4.6%	4.9%	5.3%	4.9%	5.0%							
U.S. UNADJUSTED	5.9%	5.7%	5.5%	4.8%	4.7%	5.2%							
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.4%	5.3%	5.2%	4.9%	4.8%	5.0%							

1996 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	434.4	439.3	442.3	446.3	447.0	454.3	457.6	453.8	445.6	447.9	447.3	443.1	446.6
EMPLOYED PERSONS	404.5	408.9	413.9	422.3	424.7	430.6	435.8	434.6	426.9	428.5	426.1	419.9	423.1
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE	30.5	29.5	34.0	35.6	37.1	37.4	39.3	38.2	37.4	37.3	32.8	30.5	35.0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	29.9	30.4	28.4	24.0	22.3	23.7	21.8	19.2	18.7	19.4	21.2	23.2	23.5
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.9%	6.9%	6.4%	5.4%	5.0%	5.2%	4.8%	4.2%	4.2%	4.3%	4.7%	5.2%	5.3%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%	5.4%	5.3%	5.1%	5.1%	4.9%	4.8%	4.8%	5.3%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	6.3%	6.0%	5.8%	5.4%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.1%	5.0%	4.9%	5.0%	5.0%	5.4%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.7%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.5%	5.3%	5.4%	5.2%	5.2%	5.2%	5.3%	5.3%	5.4%

1995 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	431.8	437.5	435.3	436.1	435.3	442.4	448.5	444.5	436.4	435.8	435.4	434.2	437.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	403.6	404.5	407.2	411.6	411.5	416.6	424.1	421.8	414.1	412.0	409.4	406.8	411.9
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE	25.2	28.0	28.8	32.1	31.4	32.7	34.7	36.3	32.9	33.0	28.3	28.9	31.0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	28.2	33.0	28.1	24.5	23.8	25.8	24.4	22.7	22.3	23.8	26.0	27.4	25.8
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.5%	7.5%	6.5%	5.6%	5.5%	5.8%	5.4%	5.1%	5.1%	5.5%	6.0%	6.3%	5.9%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.4%	6.2%	5.6%	5.8%	5.9%	6.0%	6.0%	6.1%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%	5.9%	5.9%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	6.2%	5.9%	5.7%	5.6%	5.5%	5.8%	5.9%	5.6%	5.4%	5.2%	5.3%	5.2%	5.6%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	5.6%	5.5%	5.4%	5.7%	5.6%	5.6%	5.7%	5.7%	5.7%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	5.6%

1994 ANNUAL DATA	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 1/	427.0	431.6	434.7	439.7	439.5	446.3	452.8	450.4	441.3	438.9	437.4	434.3	439.5
EMPLOYED PERSONS	399.5	403.4	408.8	418.5	420.3	425.6	433.0	432.3	422.7	418.8	415.0	408.9	417.2
LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTE 2/	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PERSONS EMPLOYED IN AGRICULTURE	28.8	27.6	31.3	34.2	35.8	36.1	35.9	33.2	28.1	29.9	23.1	23.0	30.6
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	27.5	28.2	25.9	21.2	19.2	20.7	19.8	18.1	18.6	20.1	22.4	25.4	22.3
% OF LABOR FORCE, UNADJUSTED 3/	6.4%	6.5%	6.0%	4.8%	4.4%	4.6%	4.4%	4.0%	4.2%	4.6%	5.1%	5.9%	5.1%
% OF LABOR FORCE, SEASONALLY ADJ	5.3%	5.2%	5.1%	5.0%	4.8%	4.8%	4.9%	4.9%	5.1%	5.1%	5.2%	5.4%	5.1%
U.S. UNADJUSTED	7.3%	7.1%	6.8%	6.2%	5.9%	6.2%	6.2%	5.9%	5.6%	5.4%	5.3%	5.1%	6.1%
U.S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	6.7%	6.6%	6.5%	6.4%	6.0%	6.1%	6.1%	6.1%	5.9%	5.8%	5.6%	5.4%	6.1%

1/ESTIMATES BASED ON NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SAMPLE, CENSUS AND OTHER RELATIONSHIPS. INCLUDES SELF-EMPLOYED, UNPAID FAMILY AND DOMESTIC WORKERS. CURRENT MONTH PRELIMINARY. REVISED TO 1997 BENCHMARKS.
2/NONADDITIVE. INCLUDED IN TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
3/COMPUTED FROM WHOLE (UNROUNDED) NUMBERS. RESIDENCE SERIES BEGAN IN JANUARY 1970.
*UNDER 50

SOURCE FOR RESIDENCE DATA. SEE TECHNICAL NOTES S-1 AND S-2 ON FINAL PAGE

TABLE III
MONTANA
STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

CES
Current Employment Statistics

96BM

1997

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1997	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY JOBS	350.4	352.3	354.8	358.5	366.5	370.2							
TOTAL PRIVATE	272.6	273.0	275.2	278.7	286.5	294.2							
GOODS PRODUCING	42.5	42.4	42.8	44.1	47.3	49.1							
SERVICE PRODUCING	307.9	309.9	312.0	314.4	319.2	321.1							
PRIVATE SERVICE PRODUCING	230.1	230.6	232.4	234.6	239.2	245.1							
MINING	5.3	5.1	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.7							
METAL MINING	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.1							
GOLD & SILVER ORES	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8							
COAL MINING	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0							
OIL & GAS EXTRACTION	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.7							
NONMETALLIC MINERALS	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9							
CONSTRUCTION	13.6	13.8	14.3	15.8	18.3	19.2							
GENERAL BUILDING CONTRACTORS	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.6	5.1	5.3							
HEAVY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT.	2.4	2.5	2.6	3.0	4.2	4.5							
SPECIAL TRADE CONTRACTORS	7.0	7.0	7.3	8.2	9.0	9.4							
MANUFACTURING	23.6	23.5	23.2	23.1	23.5	24.2							
DURABLE GOODS	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.3	14.7	15.2							
LUMBER & WOOD PRODUCTS	7.0	7.0	6.9	6.8	6.9	7.3							
*LOGGING	1.3	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.2							
SAWMILLS & PLANING	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5							
*STONE, CLAY & GLASS	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.1							
PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1							
NONDURABLE GOODS	9.1	9.1	8.8	8.8	8.8	9.0							
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.4							
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.0	3.1							
TRANS., COMM. & UTILITIES	20.1	20.1	20.2	20.0	20.6	20.4							
TRANSPORTATION	12.9	12.8	12.9	12.8	13.1	12.9							
RAILROAD	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2							
LOCAL & INTERURBAN	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.3							
TRUCKING & WAREHOUSE	5.1	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.0							
COMMUNICATIONS & UTILS	7.2	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.5	7.5							
COMMUNICATIONS	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5							
TELEPHONE COMM.	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7							
ELECTRIC,GAS,SANITARY	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	4.0	4.0							
COMBINATION UTILITY	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2							
TRADE	94.6	94.0	94.5	95.8	98.2	100.6							
WHOLESALE TRADE	18.2	18.2	18.4	18.6	18.7	18.8							
WHOLESALE - DURABLES	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.6	9.6	9.7							
WHOLESALE - NONDURABLE	8.8	8.8	8.9	9.0	9.1	9.1							
RETAIL TRADE	76.4	75.8	76.1	77.2	79.5	81.8							
BLDNG MATERIALS, GRDN SUPL	3.8	3.6	3.6	4.0	4.3	4.5							
GENERAL MERCHANDISE	8.6	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.4	8.5							
DEPARTMENT STORES	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.8	6.9	6.9							
FOOD STORES	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.8	11.0							
AUTOMOTIVE DEALERS	11.3	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.4	11.7							
NEW, USED CAR DEALER	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.8							

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-4 ON FINAL PAGE
*ITEMS MARKED WITH AN * ARE PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS STATE ECONOMIC INDICATORS

TABLE III
MONTANA
STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

CES
Current Employment Statistics

96 BM

1997

(Page 2)

(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1997	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
GAS STATIONS	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.2							
APPAREL & ACCESSORY	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1							
FURN, HOMEFURN, EQUIP	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3							
EATING & DRINKING	28.5	28.7	29.0	29.8	30.9	32.2							
MISC. RETAIL	8.2	8.2	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.5							
FINANCE, INS, REAL EST.	16.0	16.2	16.3	16.4	16.6	16.9							
FINANCE	8.5	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.8							
DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.4	6.5							
COMMERCIAL BANKS	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.7							
INSURANCE	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.4							
INSURANCE CARRIERS	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2							
INSURANCE AGENTS	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.3							
REAL ESTATE	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.6	3.7							
SERVICES	99.4	100.3	101.4	102.4	103.8	107.2							
HOTELS & OTHR LODGING	7.7	7.8	8.0	7.9	8.7	10.7							
PERSONAL SERVICES	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.7	2.7							
BUSINESS SERVICES	12.5	12.6	13.2	13.4	13.5	14.0							
AUTO & MISC. REPAIR	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.2							
AMUSEMENT, INCL MOVIES	7.9	8.0	7.8	7.9	8.1	8.9							
HEALTH SERVICES	31.6	31.7	31.6	31.6	31.4	31.5							
NURSING & PRSNL CARE	4.7	4.7	4.8	4.8	4.9	4.8							
HOSPITALS	15.9	15.9	15.9	15.9	15.7	15.8							
LEGAL SERVICES	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4							
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	2.9							
SOCIAL SERVICES	10.1	10.1	10.3	10.5	10.5	10.2							
RESIDENTIAL CARE	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2							
MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION	8.4	8.5	8.6	8.7	8.9	9.2							
ENGINEERING & MNGMENT	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.9	7.1							
ENGINEER, ARCHITECTS	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2							
* ACCOUNTING, AUDITING	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.6							
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	77.8	79.3	79.6	79.8	80.0	76.0							
TOTAL FEDERAL GOVT.	11.8	11.8	11.8	12.2	12.8	13.4							
TOTAL STATE GOVERNMENT	23.4	24.4	24.3	24.1	23.0	20.1							
STATE EDUCATION	12.2	13.1	12.9	12.8	11.8	8.9							
*OTHER STATE GOVT.	11.2	11.3	11.3	11.3	11.1	11.1							
TOTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT	42.6	43.1	43.5	43.5	44.2	42.5							
LOCAL EDUCATION	28.1	28.6	28.9	28.9	29.0	26.1							
*OTHER LOCAL GOVT.	14.5	14.5	14.6	14.6	15.2	16.3							

*SEE FOOTNOTE ON PAGE 1 OF THIS TABLE

TABLE IV
MONTANA
STATEWIDE FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
(IN THOUSANDS)

CES
Current Employment Statistics

1997

96BM

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AVG
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA) 1997													
NONFARM WAGE & SALARY JOBS	174.4	175.5	176.4	178.4	181.3	181.3							
TOTAL PRIVATE	132.8	132.9	133.8	135.5	138.2	141.2							
MINING	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7							
CONSTRUCTION	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.2							
MANUFACTURING	5.5	5.3	5.3	5.3	5.4	5.6							
DURABLE GOODS	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	2.9							
NONDURABLE GOODS	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7							
TCU 1/	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.8	5.6							
TRANSPORTATION	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3							
COMMUNICATIONS & UTILS	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.3							
TRADE	44.6	44.3	44.4	45.2	46.8	48.3							
WHOLESALE TRADE	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7							
RETAIL TRADE	40.3	39.9	40.0	40.7	42.2	43.6							
EATING & DRINKING	16.2	16.3	16.4	17.0	17.6	18.6							
FIRE 2/	11.4	11.4	11.5	11.7	11.7	11.6							
FINANCE	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6							
SERVICES	63.4	64.1	64.6	65.2	65.7	67.2							
HOTELS & OTHR LODGING	4.1	4.2	4.2	4.1	4.5	5.7							
HEALTH SERVICES	26.5	26.6	26.6	26.6	26.5	26.5							
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	41.6	42.6	42.6	42.9	43.1	40.1							
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	5.0	4.9	4.9	5.0	5.2	5.4							
STATE GOVERNMENT	12.0	12.5	12.3	12.3	11.9	10.3							
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	24.6	25.2	25.4	25.6	26.0	24.4							

1/ TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES
2/ FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IS PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS A STATE ECONOMIC INDICATOR

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-5 ON FINAL PAGE

TABLE V
MONTANA HOURS & EARNINGS
For Private Nonagricultural Production Workers

CES
Current Employment Statistics

	Production Employment (In Thousands)				Average Weekly Earnings			
	April 1997	May 1997	June 1997	June 1996	April 1997	May 1997	June 1997	June 1996
*TOTAL PRIVATE	234.1	241.8	247.7	248.4	$345.56	$350.21	$351.33	$344.99
MINING	4.1	4.4	4.6	4.4	$693.43	$713.15	$712.42	$696.00
*CONSTRUCTION	12.2	14.9	15.2	15.0	$540.80	$623.71	$598.00	$581.88
MANUFACTURING	16.5	17.0	17.4	17.5	$522.45	$524.56	$526.42	$513.61
Durable Goods	11.5	11.9	12.2	12.2	$490.30	$500.99	$504.91	$498.56
Nondurable	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.3	$595.58	$580.26	$578.23	$548.96
*TCU 1/	17.9	18.3	18.1	19.0	$553.28	$562.99	$573.39	$595.76
*Transportation	11.5	11.7	11.5	12.1	$506.33	$519.40	$526.85	$539.59
*Comm. & Util.	6.4	6.6	6.6	6.9	$636.92	$640.46	$652.77	$695.55
*TRADE	84.0	86.4	88.1	89.0	$252.86	$256.06	$258.21	$255.66
*Wholesale Trade	15.6	15.8	15.8	15.7	$445.47	$456.69	$452.88	$438.14
*Retail Trade	68.4	70.6	72.3	73.3	$208.58	$210.72	$216.00	$216.21
*FIRE 2/	12.8	13.0	12.7	12.4	$352.23	$346.54	$356.75	$356.85
*SERVICES	86.6	87.8	91.6	91.1	$313.41	$303.40	$302.47	$292.27

	Average Weekly Hours				Average Hourly Earnings			
	April 1997	May 1997	June 1997	June 1996	April 1997	May 1997	June 1997	June 1996
*TOTAL PRIVATE	31.5	32.1	32.5	32.7	$10.97	$10.91	$10.81	$10.55
MINING	41.3	43.3	43.6	43.5	$16.79	$16.47	$16.34	$16.00
*CONSTRUCTION	34.6	39.5	37.8	39.0	$15.63	$15.79	$15.82	$14.92
MANUFACTURING	39.7	39.8	39.7	39.6	$13.16	$13.18	$13.26	$12.97
Durable Goods	39.7	40.5	40.2	40.5	$12.35	$12.37	$12.56	$12.31
Nondurable	39.6	38.2	38.6	37.6	$15.04	$15.19	$14.98	$14.60
*TCU 1/	38.0	38.8	39.3	40.2	$14.56	$14.51	$14.59	$14.82
*Transportation	38.3	39.2	39.2	39.3	$13.22	$13.25	$13.44	$13.73
*Comm. & Util.	37.4	38.1	39.3	41.8	$17.03	$16.81	$16.61	$16.64
*TRADE	29.3	29.5	30.2	30.4	$8.63	$8.68	$8.55	$8.41
*Wholesale Trade	36.1	36.8	36.7	36.3	$12.34	$12.41	$12.34	$12.07
*Retail Trade	27.7	27.8	28.8	29.1	$7.53	$7.58	$7.50	$7.43
*FIRE 2/	36.2	35.8	37.2	36.6	$9.73	$9.68	$9.59	$9.75
*SERVICES	29.1	29.6	29.8	30.1	$10.77	$10.25	$10.15	$9.71

1/ TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES
2/ FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE

*ITEMS MARKED WITH AN *ARE PRODUCED BY THE MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY FOR USE AS STATE ECONOMIC INDICATORS.

PRODUCTION WORKERS ARE NONSUPERVISORY AND NONGOVERNMENT PAYROLL PERSONNEL.
SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-4 ON FINAL PAGE

TABLE VI
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U.S.
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

ALL ITEMS
(1982-1984 = 100)

	1997		1996		1995	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	159.1	156.3	154.4	151.7	150.3	147.8
February	159.6	156.8	154.9	152.2	150.9	148.3
March	160.0	157.0	155.7	152.9	151.4	148.7
April	160.2	157.2	156.3	153.6	151.9	149.3
May	160.1	157.2	156.6	154.0	152.2	149.6
June	160.3	157.4	156.7	154.1	152.5	149.9
July			157.0	154.3	152.5	149.9
August			157.3	154.5	152.9	150.2
September			157.8	155.1	153.2	150.6
October			158.3	155.5	153.7	151.0
November			158.6	155.9	153.6	150.9
December			158.6	155.9	153.5	150.9
Dec-to-Dec %			3.3%	3.3%	2.5%	2.5%
ANNUAL AVERAGE:			156.9	154.1	152.4	149.8
Ann Avg %			3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%

			% Change From		Ann Average %	
Expenditure Category CPI-U Index	Relative Importance	June 1997	May 1997	June 1996	1996	1995
ALL ITEMS	100%	160.3	0.1%	2.3%	3.0%	2.8%
Food & Beverages	18%	157.1	0.0%	2.6%	3.2%	2.8%
Housing	42%	156.9	0.6%	2.8%	2.9%	2.6%
Apparel & Upkeep	6%	132.4	-2.1%	1.2%	-0.2%	-1.0%
Transportation	18%	144.0	-0.3%	0.0%	2.8%	3.6%
Medical Care	6%	234.4	0.1%	2.9%	3.5%	4.5%
Entertainment	4%	162.7	0.3%	2.3%	3.4%	2.5%
Other Goods & Services	6%	223.1	0.0%	4.3%	4.1%	4.2%

Purchasing Power Of Consumer Dollar:	June 1997	May 1997	June 1996	Ann Average 1996	Ann Average 1995
(1982-84 = $1.00)	$0.62	$0.62	$0.64	$0.64	$0.66

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) IS A MEASURE OF THE AVERAGE CHANGE IN THE PRICES PAID BY URBAN CONSUMERS FOR A FIXED MARKET BASKET OF GOODS AND SERVICES. THE CPI IS CALCULATED MONTHLY FOR TWO POPULATION GROUPS, ONE CONSISTING ONLY OF THE URBAN HOUSEHOLDS WHOSE PRIMARY SOURCE OF INCOME IS DERIVED FROM THE EMPLOYMENT OF WAGE EARNERS AND CLERICAL WORKERS (CPI-W). AS NEW USES WERE DEVELOPED FOR THE CPI IN RECENT YEARS, THE NEED FOR A BROADER AND MORE REPRESENTATIVE INDEX BECAME APPARENT. THE ALL-URBAN CONSUMER INDEX (CPI-U), INTRODUCED IN 1978, IS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE 1982-84 BUYING HABITS OF ABOUT 80% OF THE NONINSTITUTIONAL POPULATION, COMPARED WITH 32% REPRESENTED IN CPI-W.

SOURCE FOR DATA: SEE TECHNICAL NOTE S-6 ON FINAL PAGE

TABLE VII

NEW AND CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

UI Unemployment Insurance

AREAS	New Apr. To Jun. 1997	Changed Apr. To Jun. 1997	New Apr. To Jun. 1996	Changed Apr. To Jun. 1996	Year -to-Date 1997	Year -to-Date 1996
State of MT	747	401	1057	409	2230	3035
Great Falls MSA	44	20	80	27	128	194
Billings MSA	99	49	141	47	316	402
Multi County	84	29	89	20	202	221
Anaconda-Butte LFA	49	21	75	33	141	212
Beaverhead	7	2	10	5	24	30
Deer Lodge	7	1	6	4	14	18
Granite	1	0	2	0	5	6
Madison	7	3	13	8	21	40
Powell	6	1	10	6	9	23
Silver Bow	21	14	34	10	68	95
Bozeman LFA	95	59	130	43	284	377
Gallatin	81	43	99	34	233	290
Meagher	2	2	4	0	4	10
Park	12	14	27	9	47	77
Glasgow LFA	14	9	19	9	45	68
Daniels	3	1	2	2	6	10
Phillips	2	3	1	1	8	10
Roosevelt	4	0	7	2	11	20
Sheridan	1	4	2	2	8	13
Valley	4	1	7	2	12	15
Glendive LFA	12	7	17	16	37	61
Dawson	5	3	7	7	14	28
Garfield	1	0	1	1	1	3
McCone	1	0	2	0	4	3
Prairie	0	0	0	1	0	2
Richland	4	4	6	7	17	23
Wibaux	1	0	1	0	1	2
Hardin-Red Lodge LFA	17	13	31	11	62	90
Big Horn	1	3	9	4	9	23
Carbon	9	6	16	3	31	40
Stillwater	6	4	3	2	17	17
Sweet Grass	1	0	3	2	5	10

CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES ARE SUCCESSORS TO ACTIVE ACCOUNTS (AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS WITH A NEW OWNER) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
LFA-Labor Force Area

SOURCE. This table was prepared by the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, from Unemployment Insurance administrative records and is produced for informational purposes only

TABLE VII

NEW AND CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

UI
Unemployment Insurance

AREAS	New Apr. To Jun. 1997	Changed Apr. To Jun. 1997	New Apr. To Jun. 1996	Changed Apr. To Jun. 1996	Year -to-Date 1997	Year -to-Date 1996
Havre LFA	13	4	19	11	41	54
Blaine	6	2	6	4	9	17
Hill	7	2	12	5	31	33
Liberty	0	0	1	2	1	4
Helena LFA	44	31	79	25	143	223
Broadwater	3	1	7	1	8	23
Jefferson	6	4	6	4	14	27
Lewis & Clark	35	26	66	20	121	173
Kalispell LFA	109	57	132	68	317	400
Flathead	73	41	95	43	228	266
Lake	23	7	26	14	49	82
Lincoln	13	9	11	11	40	52
Lewistown LFA	7	10	13	16	43	66
Fergus	4	4	5	8	23	31
Golden Valley	0	2	1	0	3	2
Judith Basin	0	1	2	0	2	3
Musselshell	3	0	4	7	9	25
Petroleum	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wheatland	0	3	1	1	6	5
Miles City LFA	16	5	29	8	37	82
Carter	0	0	0	1	1	2
Custer	10	1	15	4	18	44
Fallon	0	1	5	1	3	12
Powder River	3	0	7	0	5	11
Rosebud	2	3	2	2	8	12
Treasure	1	0	0	0	2	1
Missoula LFA	130	71	174	63	384	500
Mineral	5	4	5	1	12	13
Missoula	90	42	106	38	251	312
Ravalli	25	21	45	18	87	129
Sanders	10	4	18	6	34	46
Shelby-Cut Bank LFA	14	16	29	12	50	85
Choteau	2	3	3	5	10	15
Glacier	4	3	7	3	11	22
Pondera	1	0	3	0	3	12
Teton	4	7	10	2	15	20
Toole	3	3	6	2	11	16

CHANGED OWNERSHIP BUSINESSES ARE SUCCESSORS TO ACTIVE ACCOUNTS (AN ESTABLISHED BUSINESS WITH A NEW OWNER) WHICH ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-FOURTH OF THE TOTAL.

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
LFA-Labor Force Area

SOURCE: This table was prepared by the Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Research & Analysis Bureau, from Unemployment Insurance administrative records and is produced for informational purposes only.

Glossary of Terms

1.) Civilian Labor Force-The number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the armed forces.

2.) Employed-Those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who although not working had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3.) Unemployed-Those persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4.) Unemployed Rate-The number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5.) Residence Data-A count of people by where people live.

6.) Establishment Data-A count of jobs by where people work.

7.) Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series-To facilitate the evaluation of labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed using the X-11 ARIMA method of seasonal adjustment. This is the same method used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to seasonally adjust the national labor force series.

8.) MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by the Office of Management and Budget. The MSA must have a central city with a population of 50,000 or more.

9.) LFA-Labor Force Area as determined by the Research and Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry, consists of a central city or cities with a population of less than 50,000 and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

10.) SDA-The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) was established to replace CETA in job search, placement, relocation, and especially training assistance. Each state designs local plans for JTPA programs through a Private Industry Council (PIC). Each PIC jurisdiction is known as a Service Delivery Area (SDA). The two SDA's for Montana are known as Rural CEP (Beaverhead, Broadwater, Deer Lodge, Granite, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Madison, Meagher, Powell, and Silver Bow counties) and Balance of State (the other 46 counties).

11.) Benchmarking-A continuous process of establishing a new set of data which affects the series of estimates through revision. Once a new benchmark is established, the adjustments to estimates between the new benchmark and the preceding one are carried forward progressively to the current month by use of sample or secondary data. In the case of employment data, the benchmark is used to establish the level of employment, while the sample is primarily used to measure the month-to-month changes in the level.

12.) CES-790 Program-The Current Employment Statistics survey produces monthly estimates of a wide variety of employment and earnings information for the nation and each state.

Sources of Data

S-1.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). LAUS data (Local Area Unemployment Statistics program) is adjusted to the Current Population Survey benchmark and is the official BLS approved series that is used to allocate federal funds and determine eligibility for federal assistance programs. This series represents employment and unemployment by place of residence, and is not comparable to the place-of-work industry employment series (CES data). LAUS data is calculated for the week that includes the 12th of the month. Workers involved in labor disputes are counted as employed. Total employment in the labor force also includes agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestic workers and the self-employed.

S-2.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau. The unadjusted unemployment rate is prepared by the LAUS program in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. The seasonally adjusted rate is an unofficial series, and is provided only for use as a state economic indicator.

S-3.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau from LAUS data. Data for Service Delivery Areas and Labor Force Areas is calculated from the official data series by summing up employment and unemployment for the appropriate counties involved, and calculating an unemployment rate from the summed data for each area.

S-4.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data from the CES (Current Employment Statistics) program represents employment by place-of-work, and covers full-time and part-time employees who worked during, or received pay for, the payroll period that includes the 12th of the month. The data excludes the self-employed, volunteers, unpaid family workers and domestic workers. Persons on sick leave, vacations, or holidays (and being paid for that period by their employer) are considered employed. Payroll and worker-hour data is collected for production and related workers in manufacturing industries, nonsupervisory workers in private service-producing industries, and construction workers in construction industries. The earnings figures are "gross" figures — that is, they reflect changes in wage rates, shift differentials and premium pay for overtime work. The hours figures relate to the hours for which pay was received, which is different from scheduled or standard work hours.

S-5.) Prepared by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau from a survey of Business Establishments as part of the BLS-790 Program. Information on Women Workers is computed as a ratio of All Employees of the Current Employment Statistics, and is produced for informational purposes only.

S-6.) Tabulations produced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, and reprinted by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau for informational purposes only. This is a national data series because Montana data is not computed separately.

Montana's Labor Force Areas

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